



A SEVENTEENTH CENTURY NEWS LETTER



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COMPLIMENT BY QUOTATION

One of the great originals of all such mediums of literary exchange as this News-Letter, Notes and Queries, has done us the honor to mention our fourth issue in its recent number for February 27. On page 12, among the "memorabilia," is found a brief statement of our arrangements for publication. Subsequently, on pages 138-139, are quoted our Waller letter (which we gave partly in facsimile and partly in transcript) and W. R. P.'s notes on Milton chronology.

WAR AND THE HUMANITIES

The following statement by the Corporation of Yale University, quoted by Raymond B. Fosdick in the Rockefeller Foundation's A Review for 1942, though not strictly limited to the field covered by this News-Letter, seems of sufficient importance to us as students of the humanities to deserve quotation here:

The Corporation wishes to impress upon Yale graduates and upon the general public the danger of the impoverishment of the Nation's mind and soul should the less tangible values of our culture be allowed to shrivel while our energies are devoted to the task of winning a war to maintain them. Of what worth is freedom from want, if our minds be on a lower intellectual level; or freedom from fear, if we

have a less cultured life to defend; or freedom of speech, if we have poorer thoughts to express; or freedom of religion, if we bring a less enlightened faith to the worship of God?

DIGESTS OF CONVENTION PAPERS

The editors have not felt quite sure whether it was advisable to attempt to present to their readers brief summaries of the papers which were prepared for presentation at the December meeting of the Modern Language Association. On the one hand, they deeply regretted, as did the officers of the seventeenth-century group, that these papers should have missed reaching their audience. On the other hand, they realized that this type of publication, which is so far removed from doing justice to the original papers, might work to the prejudice of the authors in the event of their desiring to publish the original papers elsewhere later on. On the whole, the desirability of such publication seems to outweigh the disadvantages. The editors have therefore invited the speakers who were on that program to submit condensed versions of their papers for use here; and they take this occasion to thank the writers, on behalf of both themselves and the readers. They hope that these brief tastes may merely whet all appetites for the full versions. The first paper, by Mr. Scott-Craig, follows.

HUMANITY IN REVOLT: A THEOLOGICAL
DIAGNOSIS OF MILTON'S DOCTRINE
AND MYTH OF THE FALL.

By T. S. K. Scott-Craig.

Both Milton's theological treatise, and Paradise Lost which is the living flesh of that skeleton, are understandable only in the light of the articulate theological tradition out of which they so largely came. That tradition is two-fold; very roughly it might be called Catholic and Protestant, if by Catholic I am understood to mean a tradition which is wider than, and not even perfectly exemplified by the Roman Church; and if by Protestant I am understood to mean a tradition which is narrowed to exclude modern liberal Protestantism and is precisely exemplified on the point of the Fall by St. Augustine of Hippo. (The "Catholic" and "Protestant" doctrines of the Fall are, of course, to some extent modified in Milton by the Renaissance Humanism mediated to him above all by Peter Ramus -- especially on the issue of man's total responsibility for his collapse.) If we are to find real illumination on Milton's treatment of the Genesis myth, we must do more than peer into the Kabbala, hexameral literature, or compendia of theology; we must see it in the light of the great documents that form and regulate the Christian tradition.

Since I wrote this paper, Mr. C. S. Lewis's Preface to Paradise Lost has arrived in this country, and with most of what he has to say in the doctrinal part I am in full agreement. He does not, however, sufficiently distinguish between the "Catholic" or revolt of the rational creature theme and the "Protestant" or sheer disobedience of the special command theme; nor does he seem aware of the importance of the De Doctrina and its relationship to Wollebius

and Ramus.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

Murray E. Borish (William and Mary) is reported to have received a commission and to be now overseas. Mrs. Borish has a government post in Washington.

Theodore Silverstein (Kansas City) is said to be an officer overseas.

Chester H. Cable (Chicago) is in the Signal Corps, stationed at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

Lt. Philip B. Gove (N.Y.U.) sends us his most recent address: U.S.N.R., F.A.R.U., F.A.W. 14, N.S.A., c/o Fleet Postmaster, San Diego, California.

John Diekhoff (Queens) is in the 703rd Military Police, stationed in Fort Myer, Virginia, but on duty in Washington.

According to the list of members of the Modern Language Association just issued, the following men, belonging to or having expressed interest in the Seventeenth-Century group, and not previously mentioned in our lists, are now in some branch of the armed services:

Gellert S. Alleman (Lehigh)
Siegmond A. E. Betz (Lindenwood)
Lenthil H. Downs (Presbyterian)
Samuel R. Dunlap (Iowa)
Charles E. Frank (Ill. College)
William B. Gardner (Texas)
Wilbur E. Gilman (Missouri)
Raven McDavid Jr. (Yale)
Theodore Miles (Wayne)
Carlisle Moore (Michigan State)
David A. Robertson Jr. (Barnard)
Malcolm M. Ross (Toronto)
Kurt Weber (Tulane)
Curt A. Zimansky (Iowa City)

THE WALLER LETTER

According to Miss Belle da Costa

Greene, librarian of the Morgan Library, the Waller letter which we printed in our fourth issue was addressed to the Lord of Latimer Abbey. The date, though uncertain, is thought to be about 1657.

R. H. Griffith (Texas) offers the following additional notes:

The time of writing was, over all, between 30 July 1670 and 22 December 1674; most likely in August-September of either 1671 or 1672. The person addressed was either the third Earl of Devonshire (1617-1684), an almost exact contemporary of Waller (1607-1687), or, as I think more probable, his son Lord Cavendish, who became fourth Earl (1684) and first Duke of Devonshire (1694), and whose misfortune it was to have a famous sermon preached at his funeral by White Kennett in 1707.

DONNE AND DRYDEN ALLUSIONS?

Rudolf Kirk (Rutgers) raises the question whether this News-Letter might not be a useful medium for assembling allusions to one or two important seventeenth-century writers for whom allusion-books do not already exist. He suggests that Donne and Dryden may be good subjects for such procedure. Our readers are aware, of course, that Milton allusions are already being collected for the seventeenth-century group under the supervision of William R. Parker (Ohio State). But these additional collections would broaden the scope of our searches and also add to the permanent usefulness of the file of the News-Letter. Opinions as to the advisability of such a project will be welcomed.

MANUSCRIPT AND SPECIAL ITEMS

Maggs Brothers' latest Catalogue 717, though devoted primarily to literature between 1700 and 1800, has two items of interest to us:

1104. Sir Isaac Newton's Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica, 1713, presentation copy from the author to John Chamberlayne (1666-1723).

1545. Sir William Temple, The Character of a Trimmer, contemporary manuscript, about 1700.

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Catalogue 354 of Goodspeed's Bookshop (Boston) offers a number of original or contemporary portraits of the seventeenth century. The subjects include Surrey, Raleigh, Bacon, Jonson, Hooker, Sir Henry Vane, Henry More, James I, Charles I, Charles II, and Cromwell; among the painters or engravers are Hollar, Crispin van de Passe, Faithorne, and Vertue.

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In the Rosenbach Company's catalogue, Selections from our Shelves, 1942, item 78 is an autograph letter, signed, from Sir Thomas Browne to John Evelyn, Norwich, January 21, 1659, one page folio, #879. Browne sends Evelyn suggestions as to a projected book, Elysium Britannicum.

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Dobell's Catalogue 70 contains the following items:

103. Richard Brathwaite, A Comment upon the Two Tales of ... Chaucer, 1665, with the autograph signature of Charles Cotton.

215. Sir William Cornwallis, Essays, 1632, with the signature of John May and his motto on the titlepage.

222. Abraham Cowley, Poems, 1656, with a contemporary manuscript copy inserted of a poem of 32 lines entitled, "Upon the great storme wherein Oliver the Protectour died." It begins: "We

must resigne, Heaven his great
soul doth claime."

335. Thomas Heywood, Troia Britannica, 1609, with numerous manuscript notes of John Mitford.

525. George Sandys, A Paraphrase upon the Divine Poems, 1637, with a contemporary manuscript copy of A Paraphrase upon the Song of Solomon bound in at the end.

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Pickering and Chatto's Catalogue No. 329 contains the following items:

140. Sir William Davenant, Gondibert, 1651, with a contemporary manuscript poem by Sir John Denham on the blank leaf Al. The poem has eighteen lines and marginal notes in Latin. This book belonged to Thomas Barlow, Bishop of Lincoln and librarian of the Bodleian, whose inscription on the title is dated 1650. In 1655 he presented it to Herbert Aubrey.

145. John Davies of Kidwelly, Letters of Affaires, 1657, with contemporary manuscript notes on verso of portrait and title.

146. Henrico Caterino Davila, The Continuation and Conclusion of the Civil Warres of France, 1648. Samuel Butler's copy, it contains an inscription on the titlepage, "Liber Samueli Butleri, an dom. 1677" and on a flyleaf, "Samuell Butler his booke 1667." Beneath the second inscription is another, "Henry Spurway bought this booke of Sam Butler, Anno 1669, Pr 15s."

202. John Evelyn, Sylva, 1670. On the frontispiece is an undecipherable inscription written and signed by Evelyn. It was later scratched out by him.

360. Ovid, Publii Ovidii Nasonis Operum, 1647. John Locke's copy,

with his signature in Volume I and annotations by him.

513. John Pomfret, Reason, 1700. Narcissus Luttrell's copy, dated July 1.

580. Elkanah Settle, Sacellum Apollinare, 1695. Narcissus Luttrell's copy, dated June 3.

733. Sir Henry Wotton, The Elements of Architecture, 1624, with a few contemporary manuscript corrections in the text, perhaps in Wotton's hand.

LILBURNE AND LIBERTY

William Haller (Barnard) sends word that he and Godfrey Davies (Huntington) are editing a collection of tracts on liberty written between 1647 and 1653 by John Lilburne and his associates. This book, tentatively entitled Legal Fundamental Liberties, Tracts on Liberty in the Puritan Revolution, 1647-1653, is to be published by the Columbia University Press. It comprises the tracts in which Lilburne and the Levellers set forth the argument for popular liberty based upon law in opposition to the Long Parliament, Cromwell, and the Army grandees, and they make Lilburne appear a more impressive and important person than nineteenth-century historians were willing to admit. They do something also, incidentally, to illustrate the circumstances under which Milton began his work as Latin secretary and under which he omitted to write the reply which the Council of State directed him to make to the Levellers. The sentiments in them are of peculiar appropriateness during the present war.

DAVENANT QUERY

Arthur H. Nethercot (Northwestern) writes:

Two new letters by William

D'avenant, both dated from Scarborough on September 21, 1643, have recently turned up. They are addressed to Alderman James Watkinson, of York, and "my noble Genovese," and they concern supplies for the royal army, privateering, etc. I should like to connect Watkinson, if possible, with the well-known story told by Aubrey about D'Av-
enant and the "two aldermen of Yorke" in the campaign just about this time, but, in spite of the fact that I have examined all the obvious materials, I have been unable to discover any reference at all to this particular alderman, nor do I have any clue as to the identity of "my noble Genovese." Can anyone help me? And does anyone know a library or an individual who would like to invest thirty or thirty-five pounds in the letters?

J.Q. ADAMS MADE ROSENBACH FELLOW

The University of Pennsylvania announced on April 17 that Joseph Quincy Adams (Folger) had been appointed Rosenbach Fellow in Bibliography at the University of Pennsylvania for the year 1943-1944. As the holder of the fellowship, Dr. Adams will deliver the Rosenbach Fellowship Lectures in Bibliography at the University during the spring of next year.

THE EXPLICATOR

Many of our readers have probably already seen one or more issues of a new periodical called The Explicator. Published by G. W. Arms, J. P. Kirby, L. G. Locke, and J. E. Whitesell of Martha Washington College, Box 1247, College Station, Fredericksburg, Virginia, it is uniquely printed on one side only in order to facilitate clipping items and filing them under the authors whom they concern. Volume I, Number 3, con-

tains comments on Marvell and Bacon among others. Queries, responses, and interpretations are welcomed. This publication is not restricted to the seventeenth century or even to English literature.

IDENTIFICATION OF FACSIMILES

The music in our March number is from Playford's The Musical Companion, 1673, p. 47. The song might have been traced in the first-line index of Day and Murrie's English Song-Books, 1651-1702, or through the name of the composer. Through the name of Falstaff the words might have been located from the Shakespeare Allusion Book. The song was first published in Catch that Catch Can, 1658, and repeated in later editions of that collection; it also appeared in various editions of An Antidote against Melancholy beginning in 1661.

The pastoral poem is from William Basse's holograph The Pastoral's and other works, now in the Folger Shakespeare Library. It was used by J.P. Collier and by R. Warwick Bond in their editions of Basse (1869 and 1893 respectively). Basse is best known for his elegy on Shakespeare in the First Folio.

QUERY

William R. Parker (Ohio State) writes: "Can anyone identify a poetaster with the initials R.E., or another named A. Bartlett, both living about the year 1700?"

JANSEN THE PAPER-MERCHANT

R. H. Griffith (Texas) queries: "Dr. Richard Bentley, helping prepare the second edition of the Principia, wrote to Sir Isaac Newton 10 June 1708:

... I bought this week a hundred reams of this paper you see; it

being impossible to have got so good in a year or two (for it comes from Geneva), if I had not taken this opportunity with my friend Sir Theodore Jansen, the great paper merchant of Britain.

The D.N.B. knows nothing of Jansen as a dealer in paper. Who can give or point to information about Jansen as 'the great paper merchant of Britain'?"

RESPONSE TO FACSIMILES

There has been so little response to the facsimiles printed in previous issues of this Newsletter that the editors are uncertain of the wisdom of continuing them. They call for some ingenuity in selection and some extra cost in publication. We shall welcome expressions of opinion from our readers as to their usefulness. While we are on this question, we might add another. Can we provide any other type of material, not now being presented, which will be welcomed?

CHAMBERS MEMORIAL

Friends and associates of Professor R. W. Chambers, who died on April 23, 1942, have organized a committee to establish a memorial to him. It is felt that the most fitting form which this memorial can take is that of a library, to be named for him and to be housed in his own University College, London. The committee includes, among others, C. J. Sisson, chairman, J. Dover Wilson, Louis B. Wright, and Kemp Malone, Honorary Treasurer for the United States. American subscriptions should be sent to Kemp Malone (Johns Hopkins), and checks should be made payable to "The Chambers Memorial Fund." It may well be remembered that Professor Chambers, in addition to his best known work on Beowulf and Sir Thomas More, made a fine contribution to Shakespearean criticism.

THE CURRENT FACSIMILE

Our facsimile this time is from a unique holograph manuscript, never previously published. Can any reader supply the name of the author and the circumstances of composition?

*To Mr. Wolsey.
On his Preface to Valentinian.*

*To you this Generous Task belongs alone,
To clear the Superstition, to Instruct the Fervor;
Where, but in You, is found a Mind so brave,
To stretch the bounds of Love beyond the grave?
Anger may last; but Friendships quickly go;
For anxious Thoughts are longer-lived than Joy.
Yet though, when active Fancy has misled
So far, as to Assault the Mighty Dead,
Now caught, by your Reproof, a Noble Shame,
Will drive by surer ways to raise their Fame.
But from our Love, what proofs do you demand?
We, by your help, may all our Rights preserve,
While others Rob the Duties they have. --
(For never Sacrilege could greater be,
Than to steal Honor from a Duty.)
Such are the Duties to Fame, in so you tread;
You baffle Envy, while you nobly Aid --
The helpless Living, & more helpless Dead.
How well does she the trifling Debt acquit?
She whose resembling Genius shows her fit
To be his Sole Executrix in Wit. --*

